

Wilson to Occupy Royal Suite in Palace

Entertainment of President and Party in London Will Be on Royal Scale.

London, Dec. 23.—The "Belgian suite," reserved exclusively for royal guests until now, will be occupied by President and Mrs. Wilson during their stay in London. In the years of its interesting history it has had within its walls many crowned heads, one of the latest, but the least mentioned at Buckingham Palace, being the former German emperor.

It was given its name during Queen Victoria's reign and was always known as the "house of the king of the Belgians," when royalty was entertained here.

At the request of President Wilson who evidently found that too much is being crowded into his short stay in England, the proposed dinner at Lancaster House on Saturday night has been eliminated. This was to have been a function second only to the banquet at Buckingham Palace Friday night. Instead of the Lancaster House banquet Premier Lloyd George will entertain the president at dinner Saturday to meet the war cabinet.

Those in charge of the details of the arrangements, particularly the officials at Buckingham Palace, are at present puzzled over the niceties of etiquette, the result of the unique situation that there will be no royal guests at the palace. These puzzles, however, have been only of momentary duration, except among some of the aged attendants who have been casting about for guidance. It is understood that they have been informed that it will be plain "Mr. Wilson" and "Mrs. Wilson," much to their relief.

Much of the regal pomp of Buckingham Palace ended at the beginning of the reign of Edward VII, but much was left to be eliminated by the present king. It is still a far cry, however, from the formalities of this place to those of the White House.

The presidential party will consist of five, including Rear Admiral Grayson and two aides.

Cancels Restrictions

War Industries Board Revokes Priorities.

Columbia, Dec. 24.—The State Council of Defense has been advised by Bernard M. Baruch of the war industries board that all restrictions have been canceled. The following is the telegram from Mr. Baruch:

"Effective January 1, all rules, regulations and directions of every nature whatsoever issued by priorities division of the war industries board are hereby canceled and all pledges heretofore made on the suggestion or request of the said priorities division are hereby revoked."

Should Not Disband

There is Important Work For Councils of Defence During Reconstruction Period.

Columbia, Dec. 23.—The secretary of war and the secretary of the interior, speaking at Annapolis before the conference of governors this week, strongly advised the governors of the several States of the Union to continue their Councils of Defense.

Secretary Lane said: "We in the Council of National Defense have been intimately in touch with all sections of the country through the organizations of the State Councils of Defense. In our judgment, for this trying period which is to come, it is essential that you should be able in the future as in the past to reach your own people with whatever message the national government may desire to send them. The Women's Councils—all the activities in which women have been engaged—should not be allowed to flag. I say this so as to emphasize what Secretary Baker said to you Monday. We wish you to promote through every way you can, through legislation, through the message you will carry home, the idea that the United States shall not disintegrate into so many individuals, but that the organized effort which has been in existence throughout the war shall be maintained until we know that this war is over and its effects are passed."

More Germans Interned

Twenty-Four Are Sent to Oglethorpe as Dangerous.

New York, Dec. 23.—Another batch of twenty-four Germans were sent by the federal authorities to Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., today for internment as "dangerous." They included Albert Sanders, who has just completed a sentence at Atlanta for participation in a conspiracy before the United States entered the war, to send spies to England from this city to locate the British fleet. Another was Emil Pleht, a German reservist arrested here garbed as a woman.

Gets Long Sentence

Soldier Attempted to Assault Tennessee Girl.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Dec. 23.—Twenty-five years at hard labor in the Leavenworth Penitentiary is the punishment meted out to Corp. O. W. Hopes, member of the Development Battalion, Camp Greenleaf, for attempted assault on a 12 year old girl, near the camp on November 13. After arrest and identification of Hopes, a courtmartial was convened and the verdict forwarded to Washington. Hopes will be transferred to Leavenworth at once.

Paris, Dec. 24.—The names of one hundred and sixty-five American soldiers, cited for bravery in the fighting between October 3rd to 10th at St. Etienne, Blanc Mont and Medeah Farm in the Campagne, have been printed in The Journal Official.

Letters From France

Lieut. DeS. Boykin Writes Interestingly of the First Few Days After the Armistice.

The following letters have been received by Mr. W. D. Boykin from her son Lieut. DeS. Boykin:

November 14, 1918.

Just a few very hurried lines to let you know that I am O. K. We are just out of the final "Big Show" I spoke of in my last letter. I said it would be more than they could stand. And it was. We drove them for four days and nights, something like twelve kilos. One cannot possibly appreciate what a drive of this sort means without being right in it. I was right in the midst of it all and can't express the half. My company was very fortunate though, as we had very few casualties, that is, comparatively speaking. We are now only a few kilometers from Verdun, but we drove from Northwest of Verdun towards Metz from the south-east. We were making an awful rush and would have gained it in only a short while if they had not called us off just when they did. It was an awful roar and hiss of Machine guns, shrapnel, high explosives, mines, gas, etc., right up to the last minute, the 11th day, 11th month, and the 11th hour. At which time everything ceased firing. It was the most wonderful thing I have ever witnessed. You could almost hear the silence, and ten minutes after the fighting stopped, both the Germans and Allies went over the top into No Man's Land to dress the wounded and remove the dead. Some of them even went so far as to exchange cigarettes and experiences with the Boche. That night both sides sent up all the rockets, flares, very lights, etc., they could possibly get their hands on, and even built huge bon fires all along the line. You could hear both sides singing hymns, etc., just as far as the ear could hear. Some of the Germans even went so far as to sing the French and National Anthems, showing the world that it was not their will to continue this awful slaughter and bloodshed.

Now for a little news that cuts deep. This afternoon when we came into billet, an order came from general headquarters saying that 55 officers, first lieutenants, of this division, would be transferred to the Third Division, three of which were to be furnished by our battalion. As there are only four first lieutenants, unmarried, in this battalion, of course my chances were very slim. We drew for it and I am one of the three. We will more than likely be transferred immediately. As I understand it, we are to form part of the Army of Occupation, which moves into the interior of Germany for guard duty, etc., for a period of not less than one year, as well as I can figure it. Of course no one knows just what we are to do as yet, but I will write full details as soon as anything definite is known. As I am being transferred into a regular army organization, I will no doubt stick to it for keeps.

No doubt you will think this somewhat abrupt and sudden. You have nothing on me. I think the same, but I guess we'll just have to make the best we can of it. If God sticks to me as He has for the past week I think everything will work out for the best. Let's hope so, anyway.

Just think what a few hours can bring forth. Only this morning we were planning our trip back overseas, etc., etc. As we think it will be only a short time before the old 81st is ordered back overseas, as she is pretty well shot to pieces, and I don't think it possible for Germany to reopen hostilities—just at this very point I received my orders, but let's cheer up and hope for the best. There are lots and lots—a whole lot—worse off than you and I, especially those poor devils who got it in the neck the last morning. One of my best friends, a boy from Sumter, who has a wife and two babies, was literally shot to pieces by a M. G. on about the 10th hour of the last day. Theo. Ravenell, first lieutenant, 316 M. G. B'n., who had just received his captaincy only a few days previous, C'est Le Guerre. No doubt his poor wife will be receiving letters from him two or three weeks after she gets word of his death. There are lots of just such cases, and when you have seen all this with your own eyes, you kinder look at old life from an entirely new point of view. We indeed have lots to be grateful to God for, and I think in the long run there must be something in store for us. Let's hope so.

If you ever get this far, please excuse haste, writing and stationery, as I am limited on time and have no blotter, so have to let them dry off while I'm writing another sheet. Today I received your mail up to the 10-18-18. They are a joy to my weary heart, but I have no time to answer just now. Will send you my new address in a few days.

Co. "A" 7th Machine Gun B'n., U. S. A., P. O. 740, November 22, 1918.

Ain't it awful? Just when I was learning French so well—they send me to another country. Here they "savy" neither French or English, so what am I to do? I've got a pocket full of marks and pennings (that's not much) and can't even say "Damn." This P. M. I tried to buy some handkerchiefs and couldn't even get away with that, but I should worry—I've got a plum nice auto to ride in and a big chateau to live in, the kind you read and dream about. You know. Its true its awful, awful cold, but it is a whole lot better hiking in autos than on foot, as I've been doing heretofore. Where it took us all day to make a trip before we now make it in only a few hours.

The organization to which I am now assigned is the divisional M. G. B'n. of the 3rd U. S. (Regular Army) division. We have fifteen big machine gun trucks to the company, besides three other (big) trucks for supplies and rations, so you see, I'm really a whole lot better off than I was with the 317th M. G. B'n. and maybe I'll be back home ahead of

them after all—for it is rumored that the first divisions into Germany are to be relieved by others who remain in France just for that purpose. Anyhow, here's hoping.

At present we are near Luxemburg. Don't know just where we go from here, but let you know where we finally rest for the winter presently. Isn't it nice to be able to know all these things.

No doubt you will be somewhat surprised at my above change in address. I would have let you know something of it sooner, but I must admit that I have been traveling quite a bit in the past month. One week at the front, one week in a drive and the rest of the time being transferred to the forward army to which I am now attached and still moving forward with them. I have only been with them for a very short time, but so far am very much pleased as they seem to be a fine lot. The Regular army. At the present time we are right on the border and still moving forward. We are to be the army of occupation, the first to move into Germany. Don't know just what we are to do, but I shouldn't worry—we have the drop on them now.

Wired you as I passed through Bar-le-Duc the other day, to let you know that they didn't get me the last few days of the war, as they did many others, many of which were my friends and comrades, Capt. Theo. Ravenell of Sumter and many others. Possibly you received two wires from me as I asked Billy McGowan to wire you just before I left him, but was afraid he would forget, and you know, I'm not a man who takes chances?

I am afraid to write too much as I might put your eyes out trying to read this scratch, but its so cold I can hardly hold my pen in hand, and I only have a few seconds in which to write you and one other.

Must run along now as we are to move forward any minute now and I must help get things in readiness. I am in a Motorized organization. Some lunch, eh?

I am well and just as happy as a young lord. Will write again just as soon as I possibly can.

Food Exports Permitted

Restrictions on Exports Relaxed By War Trade Board.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Sweeping relaxation of restrictions on the exports of foodstuffs, fodders and feed to the Pan-American republics, Canada, Cuba and the West Indies, was announced tonight by Chairman McCormick of the war trade board.

Applications for licenses for all articles under these classifications with the exception of a short list, now will be received by the board subject to the import requirements of the country of destination and to shipping facilities. An earnest desire to express the esteem of the American nation for the sister nations of the Western Hemisphere was said to have been a strong factor in determining the attitude of the board, and in this connection officials said the order will apply even to commodities of which there are a restricted quantity in the United States.

The list of exceptions named only wheat and wheat flour, corn and coffee, sugar, butter, cheese, eggs, linseed meal and cake and cotton seed meal and cake.

To avoid any misapprehension as to the supply of these articles to the countries named it was emphasized that practically all of them are available in desired quantities through government channels.

If We Don't Come Back

A "Y" in France Holding Packages for Sweethearts of Soldiers Who Went to Front.

Paris, Dec. 20.—Two parcels, as valuable as they are small, are stowed away in a Y. M. C. A. safe at Ipeccourt, France. They give the only clue to one of the unfinished romances of the war. Each is addressed and ready for mailing to a girl back in America. Each contains a diamond ring and more than a thousand francs. They will have to lie in that Red Triangle safe until the last casualty lists are published, for they were turned over to the "Y" secretary in trust by two young officers just a day or two before the fighting ceased.

"Say, doc," said the spokesman, "we want to leave these with you in case—we, you know. In the morning we're going after Heinie again. If we don't come back, send these things to the addresses on them."

They haven't come back—yet, but the "Y" man is not sure. Rings—diamond rings—should be messengers of joy to American girls, not harbingers of tragedy. So the "Y" man is keeping the rings until the officers turn up—or until the last casualty lists tell their tale of supreme sacrifice.

America and Russia

A Manchuria Labor Organ Says America is the True Friend of Russia.

Harbin, Manchuria, Nov. 20 (Correspondence)—America's friendship for Russia is recognized by the Manchuria, a labor organ of this city which declares editorially that the words of the United States can be trusted and that American diplomacy is straightforward and democratic. The paper quotes the American consul at Irkutsk as announcing that the United States would in no way interfere in Russian internal affairs.

"We must learn from America to build our fortunes by ourselves and develop the wealth of our country," The Manchuria says. "America is our true friend offering her services without any hypocrisy. If we desire them," Russia and America! How strong would be such an alliance. What possibilities it would present to our long suffering country. America extends to us a helping hand. May we not fail to grasp it. And it must not be forgotten for one moment that if anyone should occupy Siberia it will not be America."

A Chinese Reception

The President of China and His Wife Entertain in Social Function.

Peking, Oct. 27 (Correspondence of The Associated Press)—More than a hundred foreign men and women attended a reception given by President Hsu Shichang and Mme. Hsu in the historic Imperial Palace yesterday afternoon. The diplomatic establishments, the press and the business world were represented in the list of some five hundred invited guests.

As this was the first social function on a large scale in which the new executive had participated since his inauguration, the event was of unusual interest, apparently to the Chinese guests as well as to foreigners. Utmost simplicity characterized the affair. The big audience chamber, doubtless the scene of epoch-making events in the past, was decorated with chrysanthemums and asters. A military band heard the entrance of the president, who took a post before a gigantic floral pyramid in the center of the hall.

The president is a medium sized man, stockily built, with a pleasing countenance and a reassuring smile. He was attired in frock suit and looked the up-to-date eastern dignitary. He negotiated the ordeal of handshaking with all the ease and dignity of a western public official. Since he speaks neither French nor English, Dr. Charles D. Tenney, Chinese secretary of the American Legation, acted as introducer for a time, presenting several members of the diplomatic corps, but presently even that formality was abandoned.

This ceremony finished, the president joined Mme. Hsu who meanwhile was holding a reception in an inner apartment for the women guests. A tea in studied foreign style was served, after which guests were invited to view a collection of portraits of emperors and empresses dating back to the foundation of the empire.

Huns Use Spain

Anti-American Agitation in South America Fostered by Germans.

Buenos Aires, Oct. 12.—(Correspondence of The Associated Press)—German efforts to encourage the much discussed Latin-American Union between Spain and the Spanish speaking republics of Central and South America as a weapon against Pan-Americanism came to light today in the German-inspired articles that appeared in connection with the observance of "The Day of the Race" as the Spanish speaking people designate the anniversary of the discovery of the Americas.

The Argentine newspapers and weekly magazines carried special articles pointing out the advantage of a union that would make the Spanish speaking nations independent of all others. Several of these were signed by men who are known for their pro-German sympathies. It was also noticeable that the articles appearing in the purely German newspapers were more insistent in support of such a union than the Argentine papers.

This union with Spain was proposed first from Spanish sources nearly two years ago and it was suspected then, from its antipathy to Pan-Americanism, that German schemes were behind the move. The proposal has been kept alive in this country ever since by pro-Germans and Spaniards who have made no attempt to hide the fact that their efforts are directed against the United States.

The principal argument is that South America must be protected from "American Imperialism." Spain is pointed to as the great mother country that can supply all the needs and at the same time the sympathetic understanding that comes from a common language and common religion. The Spanish clergy is aiding the propagandists in their campaign.

One of the articles published today stated that the war had brought about new forms of international friendship and that this friendship in the future will be based on mutual gain and advantages. Questions of language, race, and religion, it adds, may sow the seeds of new differences tomorrow and it therefore behooves the 20 Spanish speaking American nations, to unite for common advantage. The argument closes with the statement that the league of nations is a hopeless dream.

Another paper urges that this Latin-American Union should not be merely an economic union, but one for common defense and offense.

"In time of peace," it urges, "we must prepare for war. The passive defense of the frontiers of Spain and the South American republics is not enough against the powerful nations, especially against those which rule the seas, but a close defensive union of Spain and the South American republics would be sufficient against any aggression."

"We should adopt an active attitude rather than a passive defensive one."

"The united navies of Spain and South America could present an effective resistance to any aggression and would put an end to the imperialism of the larger nations, so far as their ambitions in South America are concerned."

HINDENBURG HOLDS JOB.

Berlin Government Makes Bargain With Old Boss.

Fasel, Dec. 24.—An agreement has been reached between the Berlin government and the German general staff by which Gen. Hindenburg and Gen. Groener, chief quartermaster general were to retain their places, according to the Berlin Lokal Anzeiger.

Paris, Dec. 24.—The Germans have not completely complied with the clause of the armistice providing for the delivery of all submarines, according to The Matin. The newspaper points out in this connection the presence at Trondheim, on the Norwegian coast of the submarine cruiser U-157.

Soldiers are Thrifty

Men Overseas Are Not Reckless Spendthrifts—Great Sums Sent Home.

Paris, Nov. 24 (Correspondence of The Associated Press)—Not many fortunes in American small change are being spent by General Pershing's fighting men for they are not at all like the old style private in the days when army pay was \$13 a month. This person, it will be recalled, lost his entire month's emoluments in fifteen minutes experimenting with craps, whereupon he shrugged his shoulders, commenting philosophically, "Oh well, easy come—easy go."

The new type of Yankee enlisted man isn't like that. He is a saving young man and he sends a good share of his earnings home to help out his wife or any other partial dependents that he may leave. In fact, he sends back as much money as he spends on himself, if figures from Y. M. C. A. finance reports may be taken as a criterion. And they ought to be considered a fair indication of the way the pay goes.

In the first place, the private makes an allotment of half his base pay by government order if he has anyone at home that needs it. And if he hasn't the government takes it and saves it for him. With very few exceptions, he also is the holder of a government insurance policy, which takes another bite out of his earnings. By the time his allotment and his insurance payments have been deducted, there isn't a great deal left. Yet from this little, he manages to save what in the aggregate amounts to a vast sum.

In four of the five huts from which figures are available in one Y. M. C. A. division, the soldiers sent more money home than they spent on themselves in buying canteen supplies during the month.

In the other hut, the amount of merchandise sales was only a small percentage greater than the home remittances handled by the Red Triangle. Taking the five huts as a whole, the difference in favor of the remittances was over 125,000 francs for the month. One of the huts, the one whose business in all departments was the biggest of the five, sent to America almost three times as much money as it received for sales. All of which shows that the Yankee soldier is as generous and thrifty as he is brave and capable.

Here are the figures in total. Merchandise sales, 254,202 francs, remittances, 377,468 francs.

In the entire division, the business office handled 1,068,249 francs of which 562,679 francs represented canteen sales and 505,570 francs remittances to the United States, or approximately half and half.

Seek Recognition From the Allies

Finns Who Were Friendly to Germans Now Turn to the Entente Powers.

London, Nov. 21 (Correspondence of The Associated Press)—General Mannerheim, the Finnish leader who has consented to become regent of the new coalition government of Finland, and the other supporters of the government sustained by the White Guards, are extremely anxious to have the entente powers and the United States recognize the new Finnish government.

The necessity for such recognition at once is urged on the ground that the peasants feel under great obligations to Germany for interfering and establishing order in Finland and cannot be induced to transfer their allegiance to the enemies of Germany unless steps are taken that will convince them that the entente powers have a real interest in Finland's welfare.

General Mannerheim has been in London for several days conferring with A. J. Balfour, British Foreign Secretary. He intends to go to Paris to discuss the Finnish situation with Colonel E. M. House and French officials. He desires also to meet Herbert C. Hoover, the American Food Administrator and talk over the provisioning of Finland whose bread supplies are about exhausted.

Sweden and Denmark have consented to let Finland have a limited amount of grain, but this supply will not reach Finland in time to prevent the suspension of bread rations in the larger cities of Finland for some time.

According to dispatches received by General Mannerheim virtually all the German troops have now left Finland. There were less than two thousand Germans there a week ago, and as these have been moving out whenever ships were available, the general says Finland is now doubtless entirely free from German soldiers.

The Russian Reds are threatening the Finnish border and the political situation in Finland is so troubled that a recurrence of the war between reds and whites which devastated the country last winter is feared unless the government is able to obtain adequate food supplies to relieve the distress.

Russian political refugees have escaped into Finland in large numbers. It would be almost certain death for many of these if they were forced to return to Russia. Consequently the Finnish government has permitted them to remain in spite of the shortage of foodstuffs, thus imposing an additional tax on its limited supply of grain.

General Mannerheim led the Finnish White Guards in their fight against the Finnish Red Guards and Russian Red Guards last winter, but retired from command when White Guards accepted the support of German troops. He was not in sympathy with Germany's movement to entrench itself in Finland, and was summoned back to Finland from Sweden after it became clear that Germany must withdraw as a result of its defeat on the western front.

An election is to be held next February to select a new Finnish senate, which will pass on the form

of government Finland is to have. At present it is a constitutional monarchy, conforming to the laws under which it was governed when a part of Sweden, before it was annexed to Russia. It is really a grand duchy, but as there is no grand duke to approve its legislation, and as its laws require such approval, General Mannerheim will, if he becomes regent as is now proposed, act instead of a grand duke, pending the establishment of a legal government to replace the constitutional monarchy.

Belgians Are Bitter

Civilians Who Suffered German Cruelties Demand Revenge.

Bruges, Nov. 20 (Correspondence of The Associated Press)—The civil population of Belgium is much more bitter toward the Germans than the soldiers who have fought them to a standstill during four years, crushed them, battered them about and wrecked the Empire during the past four months. Terms of bitter execration, hate and revenge come from the civilians alone.

A kind little old woman, the owner of a cigar store after selling The Associated Press correspondent a villainous cheroot, an "ersatz" cigar relic of the German occupation, launched forth into a violent denunciation of the uninvited guests who made Bruges their home for four years. "This war must not end like this," she said with a vehemence which contrasted greatly with her gentle appearance, "we must go into Germany, they must suffer, explete." On the day of their departure the Germans robbed her store of \$500 worth of her best cigars and cigarettes.

On the Grande Place in the shadow of the famous belfry, an irate gentleman was discoursing loudly, gesticulating wildly. "The pigs, the infamous swine, he was saying, 'shall it come to pass that they will escape punishment, it is possible that the German population will not suffer any of the hardships that their soldiers and officers have inflicted upon us. Shall they not salute our officers, descend into the gutters as our soldiers promenade on their sidewalks? Is it conceivable that their women will be spared the humiliation of humbly begging of our officers a passport to travel between Aix-la-Chapelle and Cologne as our wives and daughters had to do to go from Bruges to Ostend? If we end it now they are beaten militarily but they are not vanquished in their pride, in their hearts?'"

"He is a hotel keeper. The Germans requisitioned twenty-seven thousand bottles of wine from his cellar," volunteered one of his audience standing near by.

Of all the allied soldiers the Belgian was the one who appeared to have the greatest desire to enter Germany. His country is strewn with the wreckage of former happy homes, perhaps the very one where the soldier dwelt is now a heap of ruins. But these soldier boys display no hatred. They have not been robbed of their cigars or their wine. They have merely risked their lives in rain filled trenches and bullet swept fields for the past four years.

America's Final Part in Germany's Defeat.

While the British were dealing with the ultimate German obstacle on the Western end of the operative front, the Americans were achieving an equally great success in the east. In the last days of September Pershing's First American Army had moved out from the line of Verdun, leaving behind it Dead Man's Hill, and striking northward had broken the first German defense line. It had advanced for rather more than seven miles before it was checked at the second defense system.

This second system extended from the Meuse, south of Dun, to the northern extremity of the Argonne Forest at the Gap of Grand-Pre. Here on a front, broken by hills, swamps and forests, organized defensively with utmost skill and defended by the best of the remaining German reserves, our First Army fought for a full month under conditions which beggar description. Day by day the advance was small. Hills and ruined villages were taken and retaken a dozen times. The losses were heavy and the suffering extreme.

But in this time a great contribution was made. More than forty divisions of the remaining German strength were used and used up. A full quarter of the man-power remaining to the Germans was occupied. We were holding the German while the British far off in the west achieved the decisive thrust.

In all of this time the American purpose was patent. We had to advance less than a score of miles due north to reach Sedan. Reaching Sedan, we should close the single roadway, outside of Belgium, by which the Germans could withdraw from the western front. We should cut the great and vital trunk line from Maubeuge to Metz. Once this thing was accomplished the German armies would be broken in half and the fraction in Belgium and Northern France would be out of touch with that in Alsace-Lorraine. Either could then be crushed in detail.

At the end of a month of this fighting, recalling the agonies of the Battle of the Wilderness, but at once a far greater struggle and on a more difficult field, when the Canadians were entering Valenciennes, the Germans in front of Pershing suddenly collapsed. Their line had not been exactly broken through, it had been worn through. They could no longer match division against division, the hammering had exhausted their strength and their resources.—Frank H. Simonds, in the American Review of Reviews.

Paris, Dec. 24.—William G. Sharpe, American ambassador to France, has been unexpectedly called to America by the serious illness of his brother. He leaves tonight for New York. Robt. Woods Bliss, counselor of the embassy will be in charge during his absence.